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SCIENCE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1916

"THE PHYSICIAN OF TO-MORROW"¹

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MEDICINE now justly claims an important place with the other sciences. Phenomenal advance in the physical and biological sciences has revolutionized it and given it a definiteness hitherto lacking. In fact, it may be said that medicine has been born, or at least reborn, in the last quarter century. As a consequence, the new science is not yet oriented to those other forces in human environment and relationship which activate social and economic development.

Further, too, it is impossible to foretell with certainty the place of the medicine of to-morrow. Yet institutions charged with the responsibility of preparing medical practitioners, teachers and administrators for their duties in public medicine and in practise, fail in their obligations even when they furnish their graduates with all the necessary tools, if they neglect to provide proper perspective and to develop adequate capacity for the discriminating test of new methods and the proof of new truths which they will be called upon to adapt to their life work as it unfolds. Above all, these physicians of to-morrow must know humanity as well as human anatomy and physiology. They must be trained in the pathology of social conditions as well as in disease processes. They must be as expert in human relationships as in the habits of man's microscopic foes.

Whilst we recognize our limitations as prophets in forecasting the exact status of public and private medicine a generation

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

¹ Address delivered by F. F. Wesbrook, M.A., M.D., C.M., LL.D., before the Pacific Division, American Association for the Advancement of Science, San Diego, Calif., August 11, 1916.